REMARKS

Claims 1-48 were previously pending. Within the Office Action, claims 1-3, 7-15, 21-23, 29-32, and 38-40 were rejected, and claims 4-6, 16-20, 24-28, 33-37, and 41-48 were objected to. By the above amendment, claims 1, 9, 13, 17, 22, 25, 30, 34, 35, 38, and 44 are amended, claims 3-6, 15, 16, 18-20, 23, 24, 26-28, 32, 33, and 40-43 are canceled, and new claims 49-65 are added. Accordingly claims 1-2, 7-14, 17, 21, 22, 25, 29-31, 34-39, and 44-65 are now pending. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration in view of these amendments and the remarks below.

Abstract

The abstract of the disclosure has been amended to have proper language and format.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Within the Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 7, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,381,813 to Lai et al. ("Lai"). Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0125561 of Gwin ("Gwin"). Claims 3, 9-12, 21, 22, 23, 29-32, and 38-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lai in view of Gwin. Applicant respectfully submits that these rejections are moot in view of the above amendments.

Most of the above amendments are made to overcome the objections raised within the Office Action. However, several of them are made to clarify the claimed invention and to bring the claims into agreement with the specification. Specifically, at least some portion of the amendments to claims 1, 7, 9, 10, 35, 37, 51, 53, 54, 58, and 62 were made for one of these purposes.

The amended, independent claim 1 incorporates the limitations of original claims 1, 3, and 6. Claim 6 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has been rewritten in independent form and should be allowed. The amendment to claim 1 also brings the claim into agreement with the specification, in particular page 5, line 12.

The amended, independent claim 13 incorporates the limitations of original claims 13, 15, and 16. Claim 16 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has been rewritten in independent form and should be allowed.

The amended, independent claim 22 incorporates the limitations of original claims 22, 23, and 24. Claim 24 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has been rewritten in independent form and should be allowed.

The amended, independent claim 30 incorporates the limitations of original claims 30, 32, and 33. Claim 33 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has been rewritten in independent form and should be allowed.

Claim 37 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claim 37 is independent and should be allowed. Claim 37 was amended to clarify the claimed invention.

The amended, independent claim 38 incorporates the limitations of original claims 38, 40, and 41. Claim 41 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has been rewritten in independent form and should be allowed.

The amended, independent claim 44 incorporates the limitations of original claims 38 and 44. Claim 44 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has been rewritten in independent form and should be allowed.

The new claim 49 incorporates the limitations of original claims 1, 3, and 4. Claim 4 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has been rewritten in independent form and should be allowed.

The new claim 57 incorporates the limitations of original claims 13, 15, and 18. Claim 18 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has been rewritten in independent form and should be allowed.

The new claim 61 incorporates the limitations of original claims 22, 23, and 26. Claim 26 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has been rewritten in independent form and should be allowed.

The new claim 64 incorporates the limitations of original claims 38, 40, and 42. Claim 42 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has been rewritten in independent form and should be allowed.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-2, 7-14, 17, 21, 22, 25, 29-31, 34-39, and 44-65 are in a condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

Dated: 11-9-05

By: Thomas B. Haverstock

Thomas B. Haverstock
Reg. No.: 32,571
Attorneys for Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR§ 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP.

Date: 11-9-05 By: